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Legacy - August 2008

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology--University of South Carolina

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
VOL. 12, NO. 1/2, AUGUST 2008

Legacy

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

Inside...

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

RESEARCH DIVISION

Analysis of Prehistoric Pipes
Rock Art Center at Haygood Mill
Site Interpretation at Santa Elena
Charleston Delftware
John Bartlam: Redware Potter?

SAVANNAH RIVER ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM

Update on Uruguay Paleoindian Survey
Exhibit at Indiana Jones Movie

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH TRUST

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SPECIAL EVENTS

17th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Month

Thank you for your generous support of the Archaeological Research Trust Endowment Fund and the printing of *Legacy*. These donations have made it possible for research at SCIAA to continue. It is necessary for us to continue to update our mailing list to include only those who are interested in receiving *Legacy*. We continue to seek donations from the readership to continue the publication of *Legacy* each year. Please send the enclosed envelope to me indicating whether you want to receive *Legacy*. Contributions will be appreciated. Please visit www.sc.edu/sciaa to see *Legacy* in color. Nena Rice (nrice@sc.edu)

Stanley South Receives the Osterhout Archaeological Stewardship Award

The Historic Beaufort Foundation was founded in 1965, with the mission to support the protection, preservation, and presentation of sites and artifacts of historic, cultural, and architectural significance throughout Beaufort County, South Carolina. On March 10, 2008, Stanley South, USC-SCIAA archaeologist, was honored by that foundation at its 42nd annual luncheon meeting. He was given the Major George Osterhout Archaeological Stewardship Award and an engraved cufflink box.

One hundred and twenty people attended the awards ceremony. Other awards presented by the foundation were: The Wyatt B. Pringle, Sr. Award for Outstanding

Service to Historic Beaufort Foundation, and the Howard E. Danner Award for Lifetime Achievement in Historic Preservation. The keynote speaker for the event was architect, Glenn Keyes, who gave an overview of preservation issues facing the Beaufort Arsenal during the forthcoming restoration. Mr. Keyes was named among the top ten architects in America in 2005 by *This Old House* magazine, calling him the "steward of the South."



Silver cufflink box given to Stanley at the award ceremony. (SCIAA photo by Tommy Charles)

Director's Note

By Charles Cobb
SCIAA Director

Legacy is the magazine of the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina. **Legacy** was published once in 2008. Charles Cobb, Director. Nena Powell Rice, Chief Editor, Layout, Design, and Production.

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"In spring a young man's [or woman's] fancy lightly turns to thoughts of archaeology." With apologies to Tennyson, paraphrasing this oft-abused line reflects the fact that this is a busy time of year for archaeologists. Many projects are gearing up for the field, and some are already in full stride. This will be my first full spring and summer seasons at SCIAA, and I hope to take advantage of the opportunity to visit a number of the very important digs going on around us in South Carolina.

In the first week of May, my schedule started with a tour of a tremendous multi-component site (38PN35) that Tommy Charles (SCIAA) and Terry Ferguson at Wofford College are excavating in the Piedmont region. This is a very unusual example of a deeply stratified open-air site, located on a riverine terrace. The upper component has what appears to be a fortified Pigsah-phase village (ca. AD 1000-1450), and the research team is currently down to an Early Archaic level that has yielded two radiocarbon dates in the range of 10,000 years before present (associated with rock hearth features). Time will only tell if there are even earlier deposits at the site.

Due to the relative lack of systematic archaeological activity in the South Carolina Piedmont, site 38PN35 has enormous potential for setting a baseline for evaluating the entire prehistoric sequence in the region. Earlier in the spring, Chris Clement also spent a few weeks in the area in Oconee County, evaluating what appears to be a formerly undocumented Cherokee village. Continued work there should

broaden our perspective on Native American life in the Piedmont during the colonial era.

Meanwhile, Al Goodyear had his Topper team once again hauling equipment to Allendale. I made two forays to the world-famous site in May, my first trips there. The usual beehive of activity at Topper was even busier this year, with a big media day that included a visit from the "Time Team America" outfit, which is shooting a documentary series on archaeology in the United States for PBS (following the huge success of the "Time Team" show in the UK). All is very exciting.

Certainly SCIAA is only one of many groups carrying out work upstate and elsewhere. A few days before I wrote this piece a reporter asked me if I could list all of the key excavations going on at this time of year so that he could visit some of them. I had to confess that I was stumped and a little embarrassed. The reality of the matter is that it would be difficult to come up with this information in a complete way for any state at any one point in time.



Charles Cobb, Director of SCIAA.
(SCIAA photo)

Cultural resource management firms are continually on the go, universities are conducting field programs at different points in the school year, and others are also sponsoring work sources (such as private endowments or the National Science Foundation). At least for the middle part of the year when things are busiest, however, it may be useful for the South Carolina archaeological community to consider compiling a list of major excavations that are occurring and whether they are open to any sort of planned visits. I think this would be particularly valuable in light of our shared mission of public outreach, where we could potentially open up more of our digs to visits from community groups, schools, and so on. This is the time of year when primary and secondary school teachers could really use the break of a field trip to soak up some of the rising energy levels of students who are finding

the classroom a bit confining with summer on the horizon. After all, isn't that why we got into archaeology? We were intrigued both by the allure of learning about the past and going about it outdoors.

The flip side of fieldwork is the publication and presentation of our research, which typically happens indoors (equally rewarding but not near as much fun). In this vein,

SCIAA hosted a very successful conference in April titled "The Social Archaeology of Colonial Southeastern Frontiers." The goal of the conference was to invite archaeologists from throughout the Southeast to compare notes on the development and movement of the American frontier, from earliest colonial times until the early period after the founding of the United States. This was an important opportunity to gain an appreciation

post-doctoral scholar with SCIAA. Jodi Barnes has been selected as the African Diaspora post-doctoral scholar, and her office will be in the USC Department of Anthropology.

I also think it is important SCIAA begins to highlight some of the work we conduct outside of the state to see how it informs us about South Carolina prehistory or history. These ties are also important for stressing the esteem in which my colleagues here are held, as scholars



Detail of excavation at 38PN35 on the Robertson Farms site in Pickens County. (SCIAA photo by Tommy Charles)

of the many peoples—from European to Native American to African—who made a life together on the shifting American frontiers and how they contributed to the metaphor of the melting pot that we associate with the United States today. Around April of next year, we will be sponsoring a conference related to the archaeology of the African Diaspora, which will be run by a

around the world seek their expertise. As one example in this vein, we anticipate hosting an Australian scholar next January who is exploring 16th-century Spanish colonization efforts in the southwestern Pacific, and who is eager to learn about our Santa Elena research from Stan South and Chester DePratter in order to guide his own efforts.



The Archaeological Research Trust Board visits the Topper site in the overlook deck of the pole barn over the pre-Clovis component. (SCIAA photo by Meg Gaillard)

This issue I would like to profile some of Chris Gillam's recent efforts. He has been one of our most active scholars in cross-cultural research, with a notable background in Paleoindian adaptations in North, Central, and South America. This includes recent fieldwork on paleo-sites in Uruguay. He also has important Old World connections. In April 2008, he was invited to join the international research team of the East Asian NEOMAP project by Dr. Junzo Uchiyama of the Research Institute of Humanity and Nature, Kyoto, Japan. This five-year project consists of eight study locations in Japan, China, Russia, and South Korea,

dedicated to reconstructing the Neolithic and early Modern cultural landscapes of the East China Sea and Sea of Japan. His collaborative research with the respective groups will focus on geographic modeling of the Neolithic cultural landscape of the region, which shares many cultural traits and environmental similarities to the much later Shell Mound Archaic here in South Carolina. Chris presented his first paper on the NEOMAP project in March at the

joint Russian-Japanese Neolithic conference held in Vladivostok, honoring founding Russian scholar A. P. Okladnikov's 100th birthday; that paper was also published in an edited volume dedicated to Okladnikov on the Neolithic of the Japanese Sea Basin. He also presented at the NEOMAP panel for the Society for East Asian Archaeology (SEAA) conference in Beijing this June 2008.

Chris's work exemplifies the wide impact of the research and skills of scholars at SCIAA, and how South Carolina archaeology can be framed in a global context. As future issues of *Legacy* will show, we have a number of researchers who are making these kinds of important links.

Whether you have an outdoor or indoor experience with archaeology this summer, in the United States or elsewhere, we hope it is a rewarding one. I hope to bump into many of you as my field trips this summer continue.



The underwater dredging operation in Smith's Lake Creek at the Topper site in Allendale County, South Carolina. (SCIAA photo by Meg Gaillard)

Research

Analysis of Residue in Pipes that were Smoked by Prehistoric North American Indians in the States and Portions of Canada East of the Mississippi River

Collaborating with this research are Dr. Charles R. Cobb, Director of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina; Dr. Sean M. Rafferty, Department of Anthropology at the University at Albany, State University of New York; and Tommy Charles, Archaeologist at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina.

The Beginning

Charles' interest in prehistoric American Indian smoking pipes came about inadvertently. In 1995, while excavating a Middle Woodland Period site (38GR226) in Greenville County, South Carolina, a stone pipe was recovered from a pit feature. A radiocarbon date of 1470 \pm 50 BP (Fig. 1; Table 1, Sample 1) was obtained from a charred residue (dottle) that was in the pipe bowl. Curious about the substance that was smoked at that early time, a sample was sent to Dr. Dale C. Wingleth,

ChemaTox Laboratory, Inc., Boulder Colorado, to see if the substance might be identified. Dr. Wingleth was unable to determine the

approximately 50 years ago, and from which the possibility of chemical contamination was not a factor. The pipe was a type belonging

County	Site	Type	Material	Lab. #	C-14 Date	Material Smoked
1	38GR226	Elbow	Steatite	Beta-80890	Conventional radiocarbon age: 1470 \pm 50 BP Calibrated results: cal AD 530 to 665 (2 sigma, 95% probability)	Undetermined
2	381N38	Elbow	Steatite	381N38	1580 \pm 40yr BP (CAMS-76737)	Undetermined
3	38R134	Irene	Clay	D4537	640 \pm 40yr BP	Cannabis (Marijuana)
4	9GA		Clay	collector		
5	Turkey Ck. Edgefield Co. SC	Elbow	Steatite	collector		
6	Tugaloo River at Lake Hartwell	Luner	Clay	SC80 15.166		
7	Richmond Co. NC, Near Rockingham. Said to be from Town Creek		Clay	SC87 18.60		

Table 1: Data from pipe analysis. (Table by Tommy Charles)

substance because, in his opinion, modern agricultural chemicals had contaminated it. In the year 2000, from a cultivated field at a nearby site (38GR226), a similar pipe was found and the process was repeated.

The date returned was almost identical to the pipe from site 38GR226, but again, the substance was contaminated and could not be identified (Table 1, Sample 2). A third pipe was then acquired from a small mound that was excavated

to the Irene culture, and because the pipes estimated age was known, it was deemed unnecessary to spend funds for radiocarbon dating, so only substance analysis was attempted. Upon completion of his analysis, Dr. Wingleth called Charles to inform him that the substance smoked was cannabis (marijuana), and suggested that a radiocarbon date be obtained. A portion of the carbon was sent to Dr. Tom Stafford, Stafford Radiological Labs, Boulder Colorado, and a date of 640 \pm 40 years before present was determined to be much earlier than generally believed for cannabis entry into the New World (Table 1, Sample 3). These data stimulated Charles' interest in



Fig. 1: Steatite pipe excavated at site 38GR226. (SCIAA photo)

determining what other substances might have been smoked during North America's prehistory. To reduce the risk of wasting funds on pipes whose smoked residues might be contaminated, he resolved to find pipes that were from sources other than modern cultivated fields. To that end, he contacted Dr. Patricia L.



Fig. 2: Pipe used in a pilot study of smoking substances. (SCIAA photo)

Nietfeld, Collections Manager at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland, and inquired if the NMAI had pipes that might be available for this research. Because of the high cost of analysis, the area of research would be restricted to the states and portions of Canada east of the Mississippi River. Nietfeld informed Charles that they held approximately 3,000 prehistoric American Indian pipes from states located east of the Mississippi, but they were housed in New York at that time. The collections were to be moved to the present NMAI facility in Suitland Maryland, but it would be several years before the transfer was completed and the pipes available for inspection. With the prospect of such a large assemblage of pipes to work with, and all in a single location, it seemed prudent to postpone the

project until the move was completed. Becoming involved in other research projects, Charles put pipe research on the back burner until 2007, when Dr. Charles R. Cobb was installed as Director of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Dr. Cobb, or "Charlie," as he prefers to be called,

expressed immediate interest in continuing the pipe research. He requested that Charles contact Dr. Sean M. Rafferty, Department of Anthropology at the University at Albany, State University of New York, because Rafferty was already involved in the study of Native

American smoking, and he is on the cutting edge of identification of nicotine by gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy analysis. Cobb suggested that Rafferty might be interested in collaborating with the research. Rafferty did not hesitate to get on board, and Cobb agreed to serve as Project Director for the study. With the support of these two well-established researchers, in the fall of 2007, Charles again contacted Dr. Nietfeld and was informed that the pipe collection was now in the NMAI facility at Suitland, and Charles scheduled a visit for the month of February 2008.

At the NMAI, Tom Evens, a Pawnee Indian from

Oklahoma, was assigned to assist Charles with the pipe inspection and was quickly determined that pipe dottle would be scarce. It was a huge disappointment to learn that all but a few of the pipe bowls had been thoroughly cleaned and carbon, in amounts useful for our research, was found in only 35 pipes. Charles was then informed that the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), a Smithsonian facility adjacent to the NMAI, had an extensive collection of pipes in their Department of Anthropology, and perhaps a search of their collections would be more rewarding. Arrangements were made and several days were spent perusing the pipes with the NMNH Staff members David Rosenthal and James Krakker. More than 1,800 pipes were examined and as hoped for, the results were somewhat better, and 72 pipes containing various amounts of charred smoking residue were documented.

Where Do We Go From Here?

A research proposal has been submitted to the NMAI and the NMNH requesting permission to extract carbon residue from the pipes containing dottle. Assuming our request will be granted, we will have



Fig. 3: Pipe used in a pilot study of smoking substances. (SCIAA photo)

two primary research objectives. First, we will attempt to identify the substances represented by extant residues associated with smoking pipes in the museum's collections. This will then allow us to assess whether there were regional and/or chronological differences in smoked substances.

One of the central questions in Native North American ceremonial behaviors is whether tobacco (native to South America) and smoking pipes were introduced together as a system, so we are particularly interested in the timing of the use of tobacco versus indigenous North American plants as smoking materials. Our second object, integrally related to the first, involves establishing a chronology of the pipes and their residues

through AMS dating. This will help us to establish whether tobacco appeared across eastern North America in a relatively contemporaneous manner, or if it appeared in a location(s) from which it then spread. The chronological research will also allow us to make preliminary determinations about the functional and stylistic evolution of pipe forms. New developments in mass spectrometry and related techniques now allow even very tiny fractions of residues to be analyzed, thereby leaving sufficient residue from the sample for AMS dating. In the interim, Dr. Rafferty is conducting a pilot study with dottle collected from five pipes native to North and South Carolina. This will allow an opportunity to further evaluate methodology and the results that may be expected. Three

of the pipes are illustrated in Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

Data Needs

Carbon samples must be obtained from each pipe that is to be tested. The amounts should be at least .5 gram to ensure that both substance analyses and radiocarbon dating might be done. Some pipes examined at the NMAI and the NMAH have carbon in sufficient amounts to



Fig. 4: Pipe used in a pilot study of smoking substances. (SCIAA photo)

accomplish this, others have lesser, but useful amounts for either of the two analyses but perhaps not for both. That can only be determined when removal of the carbon is done.

Methodology

Carbon samples will be collected from selected pipes and placed in sterile glass vials and the pipe data (museum and/or site provenience) recorded on each container. These samples will be split into two parts. One part will be used to obtain a radiocarbon date for the pipe and the other portion will be analyzed for substance identity. Substance identity will be attempted by a Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy technique (GC/MS) under the direction of Dr. Sean Rafferty. Each pipe will be photographed when the carbon samples are removed, and its

museum provenience included in the photograph to insure data control.

Significance to Knowledge

Much has been written about the history of tobacco and other substances utilized by the Native Americans, but no in-depth study has been done to determine uses of these plants over a broad landscape and over time. Our knowledge in this regard has been greatly hindered by the tiny size of tobacco seeds, making them very difficult to recover using traditional archaeological screening methods. Moreover, ethnohistoric accounts describe a wide array of substances beside tobacco that were smoked, but we have a poor understanding of the chronological and regional appearance of those substances. New breakthroughs in chemical and physical analytical

techniques provide the opportunity to directly identify substances smoked in pipes, rather than drawing inferences from botanical assemblages recovered in archaeological soil contexts. In addition, regardless of the degree of success in identifying all of the substances that were smoked, we will be able to firmly establish and refine smoking pipe-style chronologies for Eastern North America.

Budget

Radiocarbon dating will be by Beta Analytic, Inc., at an estimated cost of \$600 per sample. The cost per sample for GC/MS analysis is pending. Funding for the project will come from a combination of grants and contributions from the private sector.

South Carolina Rock Art Center

Courtesy Pickens County Museum

It was in 2003 that Native American petroglyphs, or rock carvings, were discovered on a large, 30-foot long rock on the property of the Hagood Mill Historic Site and Folklife Center in Pickens County, SC. Found by



archaeologist Tommy Charles, while conducting his 10-year "South Carolina Rock Art Survey" of the state for the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, this astounding set of ancient Native American depictions includes more

than 40 carvings ranging in size from six inches to more than one foot high.

Unable to actually date, archaeologists speculate the carvings to be more than 1,000 years old.

In his survey, Tommy Charles has documented over 300 petroglyph sites in the state, with the majority being found in the upstate counties of Oconee, Pickens, and Greenville.

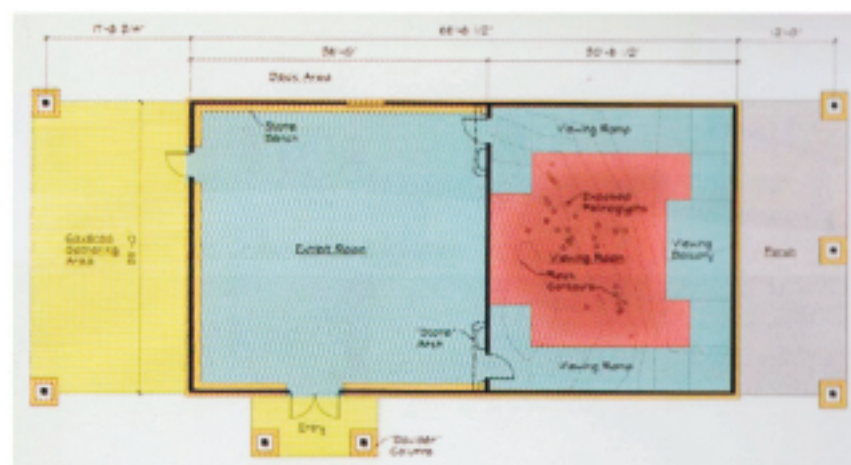
The South Carolina Rock Art Center will be a two-room structure built directly over the mill site's petroglyphs for their permanent protection and display. The Center will be located about 200 feet upstream from the Old

Hagood Mill. One room will house the rock and viewing platform. Artifacts, photographic images, and displays from the 10-year South Carolina Rock Art Survey will occupy the second room. The building exterior will echo the



historic mill, with lap siding and rock foundation.

The Hagood Mill Petroglyph Site (38PN129), according to archaeologist Tommy Charles, "is one of the most impressive petroglyph sites discovered in South Carolina. There are 17 human figures, plus a number of abstract motifs carved on the host rock. The human figures represent all but two that have been recorded in South Carolina. It is the only petroglyph site recorded in the state that is located on publicly owned property and accessible to all citizens. By virtue of its ownership and location on a National Register Property, it is at present our state's only petroglyph site that meets the criteria for long-term preservation and that may simultaneously serve the public as an educational center for Native American Rock Art."



South Carolina Rock Art Center



at the Hagood Mill Historic Site

In South Carolina and the Southeast, the South Carolina Rock Art Center will be a unique experience of Native American art and culture, worthy of academics and tourists. It will become a significant site for academic field trips, suitable for every third or eighth grade South Carolina History

class in the state. The facility will serve to protect and preserve a significant piece of our cultural and archeological history in a manner that also makes it accessible and easily available to the public.

The Pickens County Museum is operated by the County of Pickens and is recognized by the South

Carolina Secretary of State's Public Charities Division as a Charitable Non-Profit Institution. As such, this contribution to the Museum and Rock Art Center is fully tax deductible. It is our hope that you will enjoy the opportunities to be made available through this wonderful endeavor as well as the many programs offered through the Hagood Mill Historic site & Folklife Center and the Pickens County Museum of Art & History.

This article has been taken from a brochure printed by the Pickens County. For more information on the South Carolina Rock Art Center, please contact the Hagood Mill Historic Site & Folklife Center at (864) 898-5963.



Site Interpretation and Shoreline Stabilization at Charlesfort/Santa Elena National Historic Landmark

By Chester B. DePratter

In March 2008, Jim Legg and I returned to the Charlesfort/Santa Elena site to continue work there that was begun in 1979 by Stanley South. Our most recent project took only

Marking the locations and outlines of these Spanish buildings and features also serves a secondary function. For the past several years, Marshall Owens and his successor, Bryan Howard, have worked to make the Santa Elena site more visitor friendly. When the Marines had the golf course redesigned in 2000, that work involved relocating the 7th, 8th, and 9th holes that intruded on the

Jim and I spent parts of several days relocating features and structures that are no longer visible on the surface (Fig.2). These features included the storehouse/barracks and moat of French Charlesfort (occupied 1562-1563); the moats and buildings of Spanish forts San Felipe (1566-1570) and San Marcos (1583-1587); the buildings and wells on the two lots occupied by Spanish governor, Gutierrez de Miranda (1580-1587); a small plantation period building and two rows of slave houses, and the plantation period cemetery; and two latrine buildings and a large hospital from the Marine Corps use of the site during World War I.

In addition to the surveying work, Jim and I conducted limited excavations in conjunction with the



Fig. 1: Graveled walking trail and site map at Charlesfort/Santa Elena. (Photo courtesy of Bryan Howard, Parris Island Museum)

two weeks, but on each return to the site, we add a little more to what we know of the site and its early French and Spanish inhabitants.

The primary purpose of our work was to mark some of the important structures and features that have been uncovered over the past 30 years. Relocating these features, including defensive moats and buildings, serves a two-fold function. First, they need to be marked so that construction crews can avoid them when the site's shoreline is stabilized. I am currently working with Dr. Bryan Howard, Parris Island archaeologist, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Savannah staff to develop a plan for shoreline stabilization. This first step involves looking at options and cost estimates, and then actual construction money will have to be found sometime in the future.

Santa Elena site. Not long after that, money became available to construct the first segment of a gravelled walking trail through the site, and since then the trail has been completed (Fig.1). Dr. Steve Wise, Director of the Parris Island Museum, and Dr. Howard have produced a series of interpretive signs and panels that now line the walking trail and provide informative text describing the area's natural history and its long cultural history. In the coming years, the marked outlines of buildings and features will be incorporated into that walking tour and its associated signage (Fig.3).



Fig. 2: Laying out excavated structures along walking trails; note "antique" transit. (SCIAA photo)

planning for shoreline stabilization. Despite the fact that it has now been more than a decade since we figured out the location of French Charlesfort (beneath Spanish Fort San Felipe), we still do not know its full outline. So we dug a trench in an effort to find where that moat reaches the eroded shoreline. That trench crossed the San Felipe moat, but there was no clear evidence of the

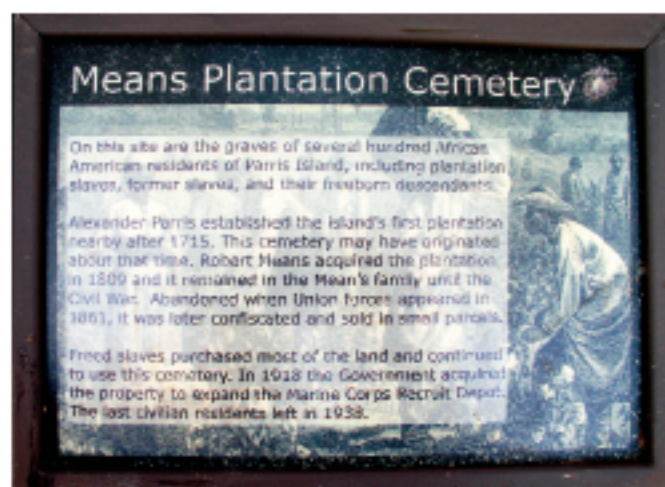


Fig. 3: Interpretive sign on walking trail. (SCIAA photo)

plantation period cemetery located to the north of Fort San Felipe. The portion of the feature that we exposed in 2001 consisted of the corner of a wall trench structure with an associated daub processing pit (Fig. 5). Daub processing pits are used to mix clay that was used for making clay daub walls. Our follow up trenching this past spring was intended to determine the size and shape of this structure, so we began by cutting a series of slot trenches across our projection of where the wall trench might go. In the time we had for this exercise, we tracked the wall trench for



Fig. 4: Moat trench excavated at shoreline in attempt to cross Charlesfort moat. (SCIAA photo)

35 feet along its north wall and 22 feet along its east wall. The wall trench itself is about 2.5 to 3.0 feet wide, so this trench seems to outline a very large structure, or it may even belong to a fortification of some sort.

While on-site, we decided to take a few days to explore an interesting feature that we found in 2001 during work intended to delineate the

Jim and I will soon return to the site to continue our work on determining the size and shape of the wall trench structure and to outline more buildings for interpretive purposes. The Marine Corps personnel, civilian staff, and particularly Drs. Steve Wise and Bryan Howard of the Parris Island Museum, have always been great hosts, and we look forward to returning to the island to further

explore the internationally important Charlesfort/Santa Elena site.

The Charlesfort/Santa Elena walking trail is open to visitation during daylight hours seven days a week. There is also an excellent exhibit of Charlesfort/Santa Elena artifacts at the Parris Island Museum that is open 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM daily, except New Year's, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.



Fig. 5: Corner of Spanish wall trench structure and circular daub processing pit. (SCIAA photo)

Charleston Delftware: A Cold Case from the SCIAA Archives

By Lisa R. Hudgins

The prevalence of police dramas on prime time television has made the concept of a "cold case" part of popular culture. But every day, archaeologists and historians live with their own set of cold case files...details over which they occasionally lose sleep, or sites that have that one persistent question will haunt even the busiest investigator. Sometimes it takes years for the question to be resolved.

When a forensics case is reopened, or when archaeologists revisit the files from a previous excavation, they use a type of surrogate data to recreate the scene—maps, photographs, or illustrations, which were made at the time of the original excavation. Just as a coroner cannot always perform a second autopsy, archaeologists cannot re-excavate a feature; they must rely on these proxies to recapture the essence of a site. Yet the data that must be



Fig. 2: Delftware from 18th century Charleston site. (SCIAA photo)

used does not always provide enough information. For example, it is difficult to reproduce exactly the color and texture of the soil. Intrusions into a feature can't be embraced completely even through the use of photographs or maps. So even as techniques become more

advanced and imaging more precise, the difficulties with using surrogates for archaeological data remain.

A recent project seemed to demonstrate the pitfalls encountered when trying to identify unknown archaeological remains using photographs. An archaeological "cold case" from the SCIAA files was reopened while completing a survey of Charleston ceramics. In the 1970s, a site excavated by SCIAA archaeologist Richard Polhemus, yielded thousands of delftware sherds, deposited sometime after 1770 when civic improvements were made to Charleston's wharves. The site was adjacent to the location of a tavern, which opened in the 1740s, and was surrounded by warehouses filled with goods imported into Charleston's bustling wharves.

When the site was originally excavated, dozens of delftware patterns were recovered, with many vessels still nested together. At that time, the archaeologists contacted ceramics experts to establish a place



Fig. 1: Seascape pattern blue and white delftware. (SCIAA photo)

or time of origin. Some of the scholars suggested a French or Scottish origin, but no definitive identification was made at the time. After several attempts, the search for the source of the delftware was abandoned to more pressing matters. The information was filed away for future reference.

When the site data from that delft cache was recently revisited, the patterns were again analyzed for the time and place of origin. In the 30 years since the original discovery, substantial advances have been made in identifying the world ceramics markets for this period. But when the data was presented to modern scholars, it met again with mixed results. The technical challenges, combined with the complex history of delftware in Charleston, may explain the conclusions reached by our new panel of experts.

Charleston and the Delft Trade

The South

Carolina low country is no stranger to tin-glazed ceramics. When the Spanish settled at Santa Elena, they brought with them elegant blue and white majolica plates and bowls. In the 17th century, British delftware were imported in barrels for resale in trendy Charleston shops. These colorful wares were an affordable alternative to porcelain, and graced the corner cupboards in many Charleston homes. However, while tin-glazed pottery was a relatively new phenomenon in Western Europe, it was no newcomer to the

ceramics landscape. Tin-glazed wares began being produced in the Middle East and Southern Europe after the introduction of Chinese porcelain into the world market—about the 9th century CE. Beautiful blue and white Chinese porcelain wares flooded the market and threatened to claim a huge share of the pottery trade. Western potters began scrambling for ways to offer similar products to the consumer with minimal production cost.

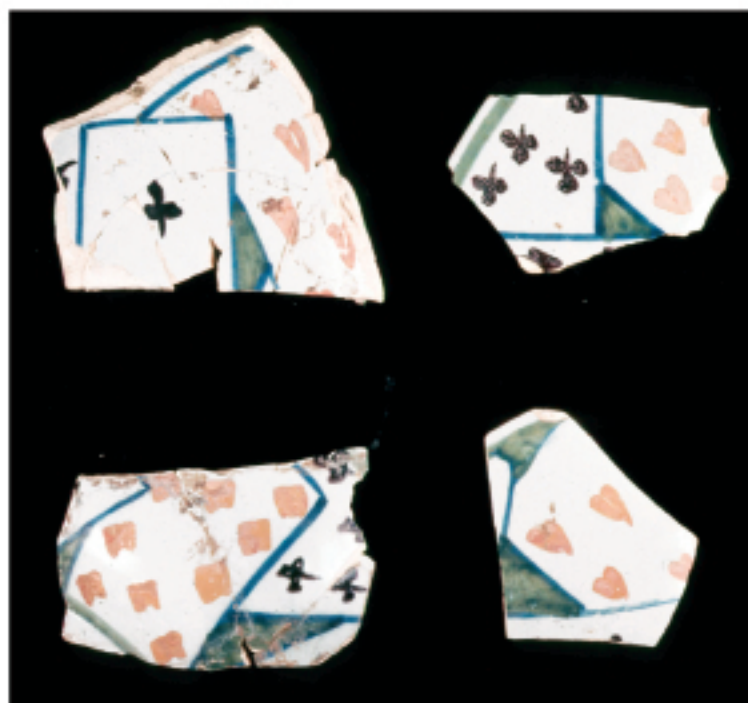


Fig. 3: Playing card pattern delftware from Charleston. (SCIAA photo)

The answer was found in tin-glazed ceramics: low-fired clay vessels covered with a glaze of lead, ash, and tin. This combination produced earthenware with an opaque finish that could be decorated with blue designs similar to the imported porcelain. They were known as *majolica* in Spain, *maiolica* in Italy, or *faïence* in France and Germany. Originating in the Middle East, tin-glazed pottery arrived in Europe sometime in the 6th century and was ubiquitous by the end of the 16th century. Its popularity waned in

the mid 1700s, and then experienced resurgence until the end of the century.

While the production of delftware spread throughout Europe, they did not necessarily find their way to the colonies. The English Navigation Acts of 1651 and 1660 and the non-importation proclamation of 1672 prevented importation of ceramics from non-British sources like Holland, France, Portugal, and Spain. Customs

officials were ordered to seize and destroy any illegal shipments, reducing the number of wares available to colonial customers. Yet, despite these trade restrictions, some importation occurred. Shipping records, advertisements, and archaeological evidence bear witness that cargos of continental pottery entered colonial ports during this period. The ban was not “officially” lifted until 1775, just prior to the American Revolution.

Identifying The Charleston Delft Wares

Given the omnipresence of tin-glazed ceramics, is it possible to distinguish the source of the delft pottery found in Charleston? Using only photographs and archaeological report data, I contacted experts from the United States, Great Britain, and the Netherlands, to ask that question.

The variability in the decoration of these delftware suggests more than one source for the collection. The vitreous *lunant* layer, or lead glaze, used on several of the designs

is typically associated with Dutch delftware. Also, the blue and white landscape designs seem to be reminiscent of Dutch designs created during the 18th century (Fig. 1). Production of delft in the Netherlands in the 1780s included what has been called *Boerendelftsch*, a type of "peasant" delftware with crudely outlined designs. English potters also produced a simply detailed delftware; perhaps a result of the "industrialization" of delft works in Europe. Mass production and high volume may have generated the crude quality of the designs painted on our vessels (Fig. 2).

One pattern in particular intrigued the scholars consulted in this project. Sherds depicting the "playing card" pattern seen in Fig. 3 were discussed at length. The pattern has been found in archaeological remains of the Shapero House at Strawberry Banke (Portsmouth, NH) and a punch bowl of the pattern is in the collection at Winterthur (L. Grigsby, pers. comm. 2008). In an effort to narrow down the origin of the card pattern, I contacted the staff at the Elliott Avedon Museum and Archive of Games in Ontario, Canada. Historically, French, Dutch, and English playing cards carried the four suits seen on the Charleston delft sherds—clubs, spades, hearts, and diamonds—while Germany used a different motif, incorporating balloons, acorns, hearts, and leaves (Fig. 4). While ceramics with card motifs were made in English, French, and Dutch factories, this specific

pottery design was unfamiliar to many of the scholars.

Archaeology by Proxy

Despite the availability of photographs and descriptions of the ceramics from Charleston, both ceramics historians and

stylistic complexity of low country trade during and after the Revolution. Museum collections along both sides of the Atlantic have pieces that match patterns in this collection, but which remain unidentified to date. While the delftware continues to be a mystery,

it is hoped that new technologies for identification of artifacts, as well as improved electronic communication, will continue to improve the process for identifying archaeological remains. As advances in forensic science have solved previously "unsolvable" mysteries, we are looking forward to closing this archaeological "cold case."

For more information on tin-glazed ceramics, check out the following websites:

Museum of London
<http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/English/>

Texas A&M Nautical Archaeology
<http://nautarch.tamu.edu/PortRoyal/tinlaze/index.htm>

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum
<http://www.jcftp.org/diagnostic/index.htm>

The Metropolitan Museum of Art
http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/maio/hd_maio.htm

Victoria and Albert Museum
<http://www.vam.ac.uk/collections/ceramics/index.html>



Fig. 4: German playing cards showing distinctive patterns. (Photo by Lisa R. Hudgins)

archaeologists had difficulty identifying the source of these unusual wares. Every person contacted expressed a desire to see the actual artifact versus relying exclusively on photographs. In a profession that thrives on the physical aspects of our culture, the use of proxies for classification appears to be no substitute when identifying a heretofore-unknown piece of ceramic.

The diversity of patterns and shapes in the Charleston delft deposit may eventually serve as a "Rosetta stone" for identifying mid-18th century delftware. The date and origin of these sherds are critical to understanding the historical and

John Bartlam: Redware Potter?

By Lisa R. Hudgins

Research surrounding the John Bartlam pottery site continues to reveal new information about the range of ware produced by the Cainhoy potter. In April of 2008, Garry Atkins and Rod Jellicoe, ceramics scholars from England, joined Michelle Erickson and Robert Hunter of Williamsburg, Virginia, in examining the porcelain and creamware collection excavated at Cainhoy by archaeologist Stan South. These respected scholars confirmed that pieces of molded, unglazed redware pottery found at the Cainhoy site were likely made by potter John Bartlam. The molded redwares are unlike anything found in England, and are identical in design to pineapple wares previously attributed to Bartlam.

In addition to the stylistic similarities, waster sherds found at Cainhoy revealed chunks of refined redware embedded in the emerald green glaze of wares from the site. The red clay intrusions are most likely from slippage during the firing of the kiln, an occurrence familiar to potters everywhere.



Fig. 2: This unglazed pineapple redware sherd is unique to the Bartlam site. (SCIAA photo by Stanley South)

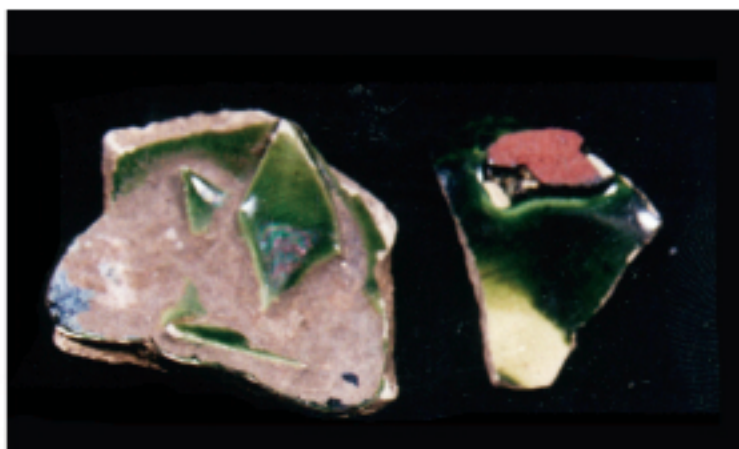


Fig. 3: Waster sherds from Cainhoy with red clay intrusions into the glaze; occurs when two vessels touch during the kiln firing process. (SCIAA photo by Stanley South)

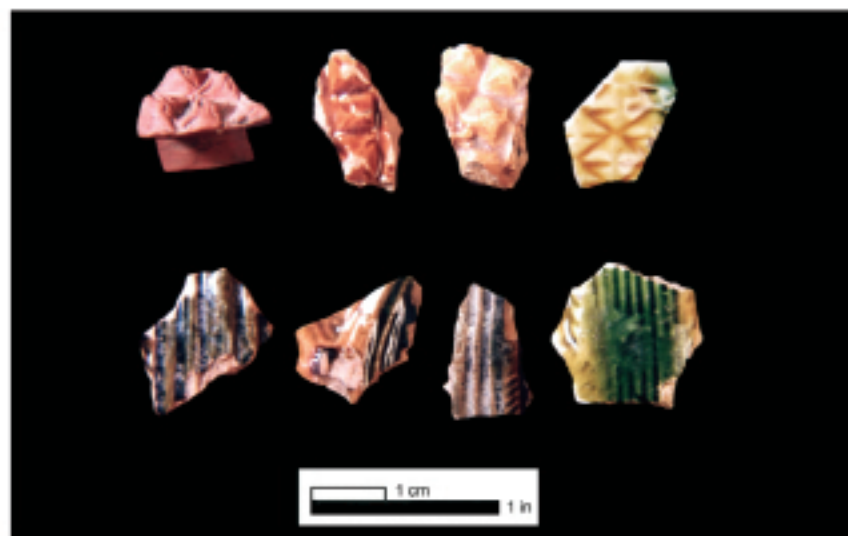


Fig. 1: Pineapple sherds found at Cainhoy. (SCIAA photo by Stanley South)

With the addition of refined redwares to the catalog of Bartlam's wares, we can surmise that the Cainhoy potter was attempting to offer ceramics that would appeal to a wide range of customers, as he offered redware, creamware, and porcelain to the discerning Charleston public.

Savannah River Archaeology Research

Fieldnotes from the Pampas: Update on the Uruguay Paleoindian Survey

By J. Christopher Gillam and Rafael Suárez

With grants from the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies (WIIAS), R. L. Stephenson Archaeological Research Fund (RLS), and the Archaeological Research Trust (ART), a collections survey to document site location and component information on the earliest cultures of Uruguay is witnessing great support from local collectors and institutions in the region. The long-term goals of the project complement extant and ongoing research by Paleoindian specialists in Uruguay to recover artifact, site, and quarry information for each departamental or county in Uruguay, to refine the regional chronology, to continue the studies of Paleoindian point technology and morphological variability and stone tool typology initiated by Rafael Suárez, to use Global Positioning System (GPS) technology to record known site locations, and to

integrate the information and GPS locations into a Geographic Information System (GIS) for data management, mapping, and analysis. These steps will facilitate cross-cultural comparison with South Carolina's own Paleoindian record and that of other regions in the Americas and enable exploration of the peopling of the Americas problem from a North and South Atlantic perspective.

In the first year of the project, 35 new sites with late Pleistocene Fishtail and/or early Holocene Pay

modern Southeast Atlantic Coast. These sites were also located on interior lands during the late Pleistocene and early Holocene, when the paleo-shoreline was up to 120-km farther out to sea (Fig. 1).

Pay Paso points are most frequent in northwestern and central Uruguay, suggesting a more restricted regional distribution than the preceding Fishtail type that occur throughout Uruguay and the Southern Cone of South America.

To date, a total of 56 Fishtail and 20 Pay Paso points have been recorded from private and public collections within 12 of the 19 Uruguay departamentals. Approximately 70-percent of the late Pleistocene Fishtail points (n=39) were manufactured on silicified limestone and 11-percent (n=6) on jasper. The raw materials preferred for making early Holocene Pay Paso points is remarkably different, with a greater frequency of silicified sandstone points (45%, n=9), and less frequent, but still significant, use of silicified limestone (35%, n=7). The remaining

and 11-percent (n=6) on jasper. The raw materials preferred for making early Holocene Pay Paso points is remarkably different, with a greater frequency of silicified sandstone points (45%, n=9), and less frequent, but still significant, use of silicified limestone (35%, n=7). The remaining

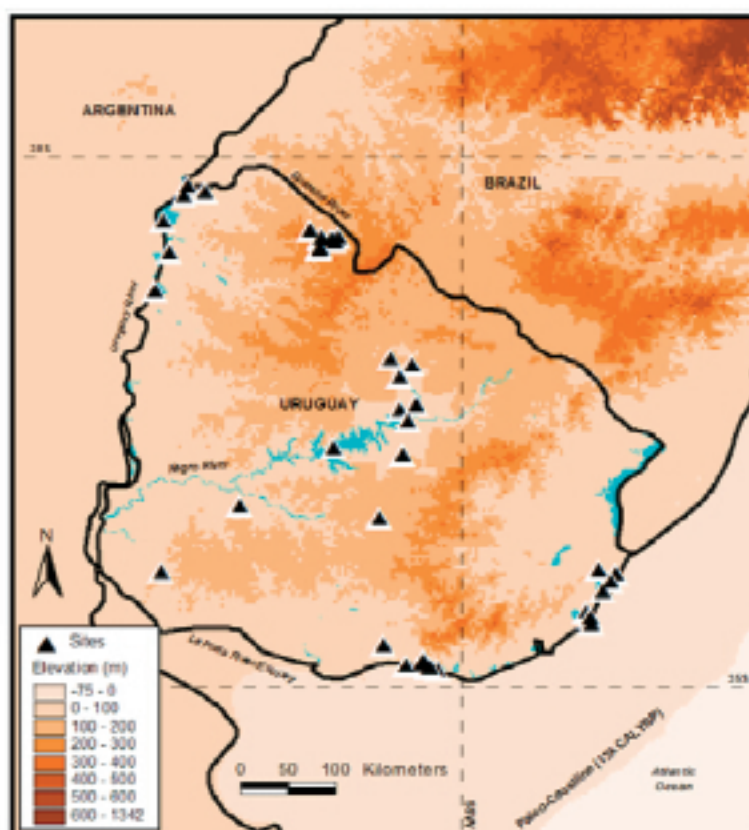


Fig. 1: Map of 35 newly documented late Pleistocene and early Holocene sites in Uruguay on the reconstructed paleo-landscape (13,000 CALYBP). (Map drawn by Chris Gillam)

Paso points, and quarries of agate, silicified sandstone, silicified limestone, and rhyolite were recorded (Fig. 1). These new sites supplement the 15 previously known sites from the region. Early Holocene Pay Paso points are apparently absent from ancient sites along the

and 11-percent (n=6) on jasper. The raw materials preferred for making early Holocene Pay Paso points is remarkably different, with a greater frequency of silicified sandstone points (45%, n=9), and less frequent, but still significant, use of silicified limestone (35%, n=7). The remaining



Fig. 2: Chris Gillam recording a hearth-like feature on the bank of the Uruguay River. (Photo by Rafael Suárez)

Fishtail ($n=11$) and Pay Paso ($n=4$) points in the sample are made from expedient materials, such as quartz, rhyolite, and chalcedony.

Test excavation in February 2008 of one of several large hearth-like basin features encountered on the bank of the Uruguay River (Fig. 2) yielded charcoal, but no artifacts from the feature. The features are circular to oval in shape, varying in diameter with smaller sizes ranging from 15 to 25-cm in diameter, mid-sized features from 30 to 100-cm diameter, and large-sized up to 2-meters in diameter. Previously, AMS has dated two features from different stratigraphic units to ca. 8,400 and 2,900 years B.P. on an archaeological site of the Cuareim River. The features occur on paleosurfaces of the late Pleistocene, early Holocene, and mid-Holocene and will be studied further to verify their cultural

significance and associations. Future field research will include excavations at sites with good stratigraphy, such as Arroyo del Tigre (K87 site) where a previous date of ca. 10,400 ^{14}C yr BP was obtained, and ongoing documentation of private and public collections and site locations.

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Exhibit at Indiana Jones Movie

By George "Buddy" Wingard

On Saturday, March 24, 2008, employees of the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) presented a display at the Regal Cinemas in Augusta, Georgia on the opening weekend of the movie, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*. Tammy Herron, Robert Moon, Megan Taylor, and I of the SRARP and Vivian McDiarmid of the Augusta Archaeological Society presented to patrons of the theater displays of Native American artifacts, outreach opportunities, and hands-on demonstrations. Nearly 250 people visited the display and showed an enthusiastic interest in the archaeological process.

The opportunity presented itself with the opening of the movie. With the main character being an archaeologist, the SRARP felt it would be the perfect tool to educate the public on the importance of archaeology. Although the character of Indiana Jones is an archaeologist, the audience rarely sees archaeology being executed in the movies, so the SRARP felt this would be a great opportunity to merge the two into an educational, yet fun exhibit.

Patrons to the theater were able to handle authentic artifacts, ask questions, and take handouts home with them about Native American prehistory and history of the local area, Archaeology Month posters, and flyers on upcoming archaeological field opportunities and events. The SRARP feels that the daylong event was well worth the time and effort in presenting the display. Uniting the display with the movie really allowed people to enjoy the fantasy on the screen but see for themselves the hard work that goes into saving important cultural resources in South Carolina and Georgia.

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South Carolina Archaeology Month 2008

By Nena Powell Rice

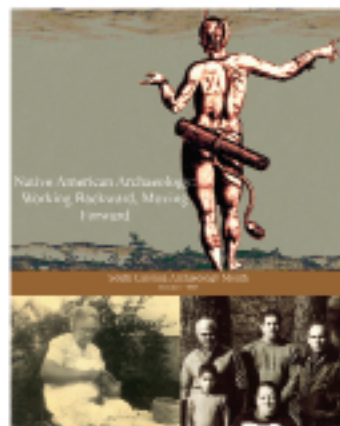
The SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina is finalizing the coordination of the 17th Annual South Carolina Archaeology Month to be held October 2008. The fall event honors South Carolina's prehistoric and historic heritage with various programs and events throughout the state. Each year the month-long statewide program produces a topical poster focusing on current research in the Palmetto state. This year's theme is titled "Native American Archaeology: Working Backward, Moving Forward." The Editor of the poster articles is Christopher Judge of the University of South Carolina Native American Studies Program at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster. The poster design and layout was conducted by Brittany Taylor of the USC-Lancaster Native American Studies Program. The focus of the articles on the back of the poster will begin in the early 16th century detailing where Native Americans lived and their lifeways based on written sources. Chester DePratter (SCIAA) provides an introduction to Native American lifeways at the time of contact with the Europeans. Other contributing authors of the articles include Alex Sweeney (Brockington & Associates) on "Yamasee Archaeology at Altamaha Town," William Moreau

Goins, PhD CEO of ECSIUT (Cherokee Indian Tribe of South Carolina) on "Cherokee Presence and Villages Revisited in South Carolina," Carl Steen (Diachronic Research Foundation) on "The Settlement Indians," Dr. Wenonah G. Haire (Catawba Tribal Historic Preservation Office) on "After School and Summer Cultural Immersion Program," Stephen Criswell (Director of Native American Studies Program at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster) on "The USC-Lancaster Native American Studies Program," and Christopher Judge (Native American Studies Program, University of South Carolina-Lancaster) summarizes the theme titled "Working Backward, Moving Forward."

Archaeology Month activities will culminate on October 25, 2008, with the 21st Annual South Carolina Archaeology Field Day, to be held at Old Colonial Dorchester State Historic Site near Summerville, South Carolina. Sponsored by the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Archaeology Field Day will feature demonstrations of late prehistoric and colonial technological influences in the archaeological record. The objective of this event is for the public to walk away with a greater understanding of archaeology's main objective—

interpretation of past lifeways (not the collection of artifacts).

For a list of scheduled events in connection with Archaeology Month and Archaeology Field Day, visit the SCIAA website: <http://www.cas.sc.edu/sciaa> or the ASSC website: www.assc.net. Also, contact Sean Taylor at taylorse@dnr.sc.gov, archaeologist at the SC DNR Heritage Trust Program, at (803) 734-3753 for more detail information on Archaeology Field Day, and contact Nena Rice (nrice@sc.edu) at the SCIAA at (803) 777-8170 for further details on South Carolina Archaeology Month. Other websites of archaeological interest in South Carolina are Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists, <http://coscapa.org> and South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs-Native American Studies Archives, <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/library/index.html>. Pick up free posters at SCIAA, 1321 Pendleton Street.



2008 SC Archaeology Month Poster

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